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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT

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COUNTRY East Germany

DATE DISTR. 13 February 1953

SUBJECT Measures Taken against Defectors and Espionage

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- Because the number of persons fleeing from East Germany is increasing, Willi Stoph, Minister of Interior, has issued an order, according to which all high-ranking civil servants are to be escorted by Volkspolizei on missions to Berlin. Special precautions are to be taken to prevent official documents from being taken to the Western Sector of that city.
- No employee of East German ministries or high-ranking member of executive offices may take files or documents home without a special permit from his departmental chief. This point was particularly stressed in political training courses. Furthermore, it was pointed out that no notes were to be made at official conferences. It was openly admitted that these steps were necessary to prevent proceedings of the conferences from becoming known in the West within a few hours after the close of the conference. A suggestion was made that those who do take notes be obliged to surrender them before leaving the conference or class room.

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